

II. REMARKS

A. Introductory Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested. Claims 8-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1-7 were previously canceled. Applicants, however, reserve the right to file a continuation or divisional application on the subject matter of any of the canceled claims.

B. Applicants Adopt Examiner's Suggestion

The Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, due to the negative limitation in claims 8 and 14. In the Advisory Action mailed January 28, 2008, the Examiner acknowledges the negative limitation is no longer a basis for the 112 rejection. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's statements.

The Examiner maintains the claims are unclear "if the removal step comprises the addition of abrasives..." and provides the suggestion to cite in the claims that "the removal occurs without the use of abrasives." Applicants adopt the Examiner's suggestion and have amended the claims accordingly. It is now believed that the 112 and prior art rejections are overcome and the claims are in allowable form.

C. Conclusion

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's suggestions regarding overcoming the 112 and prior art rejections and have adopted such suggestions. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration of the claims and allowance of claims 8-19.

No fees are believed to be due. However, if any additional fees are determined to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge these fees to the Morgan, Lewis & Bockius Deposit Account no. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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